Early Years Policy

Brooklands School

Written by: **Approved by:**	Fran Cracknell	**Date:**	September 2023
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1. Introduction

At Brooklands School, we believe that giving pupils the best start to their time in school is vital in their development and learning journey. In line with our curriculum intent throughout school, we ensure they are happy and safe and experience a caring, stimulating, well organized approach where children can build on their learning and achieve in all areas of the curriculum.

2. Aims

We aim to help the children to develop lively enquiring minds and give them opportunities to make choices, take decisions and become independent and socially confident with a positive self-image. We place great emphasis on learning through hands on experiences and relationships within school and we help our children develop values, respect and appreciation of and for others. We are committed to the development of a broad, balanced and individualised curriculum.

We recognise that a child's education is and must always be viewed as a partnership between parents and school. We value the importance of positive relationships with parents and carers as an essential feature of high quality early year's practice.

We treat all children as individuals and aim to give them the very best EYFS experience.

3. Objectives

• To provide a well-planned and resourced curriculum, following the early learning goals of the Foundation Stage Curriculum

• To promote independence and engagement through a stimulating, well-organised teaching environment

• To provide plan activities that are matched to pupils needs and that make the most of the indoor and outdoor environment

• To continually monitor and assess children, through next steps in the EYFS.

• To work build the key person role to mazimise the communication between school and home, to ensure best outcomes for our pupils

4. Teaching Strategies

In EYFS, we recognise that play is a powerful way of learning for young children, both inside and outside the classroom. We plan our teaching around play-based activities that stimulate and challenge children's curiosity and creativity. We use a variety of teaching methods to suit different learning styles and needs.

Adult planned: We provide opportunities for children to learn from adults who model and scaffold new skills and knowledge. We design activities that are relevant, meaningful and engaging for children.

Child initiated: We create a rich and stimulating environment that allows children to explore, experiment and discover on their own or with peers. We observe and interact with children to extend their learning and support their interests.

Whole class: The amount of time teaching children as a whole class reflects the needs of the pupils at any given time.

Individualised: We personalise our teaching to meet the diverse needs and abilities of our children. We use assessment information to plan appropriate tasks, resources and support for each child. We celebrate all achievement, no matter how small the step

5. Continuity and Progression

Our school nurse visits every family before the child starts at Brooklands. Every effort is made to visit the children in their settings too. We invite parents to visit school, to meet staff and to talk through their child's needs, likes and dislikes. We have a planned transition day each year, but we do offer extended transition if that is helpful to the families and the child

6. Assessment/ Record Keeping

Assessment in the EYFS is continuous and involves assessment of what pupils have learned and regular observations of the children engaging in activities. We use these observations of the children's learning to

inform our future planning. Our key workers are fundamental to this process. As well as this, we map each child's progress through their learning journey on the Evidence for Learning app.